



Auditor of Public Accounts  
Adam H. Edelen

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**Edelen launches citizen-auditor portal, new website on 100<sup>th</sup> day in office**

*Medicaid managed care review, audit of the Department of Agriculture under the former commissioner also are highlights of his first three months as Auditor of Public Accounts*

**FRANKFORT, Ky. (April 10, 2012)** – Auditor Adam Edelen today marked his first 100 days in office with the unveiling of an online SAFE-house to allow the public to securely and anonymously report suspected fraud and waste, as well as a new and improved Auditor of Public Accounts website.

The day is the culmination of a productive first quarter, during which Edelen also issued 10 recommendations to improve the state's new Medicaid managed care program, launched a special examination into the Department of Agriculture under the previous commissioner and an audit of a fund that disburses indigent care money to University Hospital in Louisville, and more.

"Hours after I was sworn in on Jan. 2 as the state's 46<sup>th</sup> Auditor of Public Accounts, my team and I began carrying out my mission to vigorously guard taxpayer money," Edelen said. "Every dollar wasted to fraud and abuse is one less we can invest in our Commonwealth's future."

The SAFE-house, at [www.auditor.ky.gov](http://www.auditor.ky.gov), will allow citizen-auditors to provide the auditor's office with information about suspected waste and abuse – including the submission of electronic documents – on a secure, digital portal. The auditor's office already provides the public with a hotline (1-800-KYALERT) to report allegations of misuse of taxpayer funds by state and local government agencies, as well as entities that receive a significant amount of public dollars.

Edelen also directed his staff to overhaul the auditor's website to make it more user-friendly for the public, media and CPA firms that perform county audits.

"Making smart use of technology is absolutely vital to my vision of the auditor's office as the most modern, aggressive and effective taxpayer watchdog in the country," Edelen said.

In his first week in office, Edelen launched a special examination into the Department of Agriculture. Working in a bipartisan manner with newly-elected Agriculture Commissioner James Comer, Edelen is conducting a full and sweeping review of the previous administration's operations and spending.

Findings of the examination are expected to be released later this month.

Also during his first 100 days, Edelen responded to a crisis that was affecting doctors, dentists and other healthcare providers across the state. Working outside the parameters of traditional audits, he requested information from the state's Medicaid managed care organizations (MCOs) and issued recommendations to speed up the payment of provider claims and ensure treatment of patients was not being unnecessarily delayed or denied.

He also announced the creation of a new Medicaid Accountability and Transparency Unit in the auditor's office using existing resources.

"Medicaid is a \$6 billion taxpayer investment to provide health care to the state's most vulnerable citizens," Edelen said. "I plan to continue closely monitoring the effectiveness of one of the largest and most important expenditures of our government during the next four years."

Other accomplishments during his first 100 days include:

- Drafting and successfully ushering the passage of two bills during the 2012 General Assembly:
  - House Bill 348, reorganization legislation that will give the office flexibility in the face of diminished resources and ever-evolving statutory mandates.
  - House Bill 402, which will enable the Executive Branch Ethics Commission to share information and coordinate investigations with the auditor's office.
- Advocating House Bill 300, requiring the auditor's office to audit the Kentucky Retirement Systems, the Kentucky Teachers Retirement System, and the Judicial Retirement System at least once every five years.
- Creating a new system for handling public tips of fraud, waste and abuse. The new system consolidates all tips – whether they are received through the hotline, SAFE-house, email, regular mail or walk-in visitors – into a master database that enables the office to track the process from the moment a tip is received until the case is closed.
- Establishing a performance dashboard to create real-time reports to assess internal performance in dozens of areas.
- Issuing the annual Single Statewide Audit of Kentucky, volumes I and II.
- Completing 82 county audits, 10 of which were referred to law enforcement.
- Conducting five training sessions for various government organizations to encourage better oversight and internal controls.

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*The Auditor of Public Accounts ensures that public resources are protected, accurately valued, properly accounted for, and effectively employed to raise the quality of life of Kentuckians.*

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